

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended): A method of visualization of a three-dimensional image comprising:

displaying the three-dimensional image;
selecting a point on an element of interest present in a part of three-dimensional image;

creating in a the part of the three-dimensional image a finite volume whose dimensions are predetermined and whose center is the point on the element of interest present in the part of the three-dimensional image;

making an interactive intersection between the predetermined finite volume and the part of the three-dimensional image to isolate the element of interest in the three-dimensional image; and

visualizing only that the part of the three-dimensional image contained in the predetermined finite volume.

2 (canceled).

3 (currently amended): The method of visualization according to claim 1 wherein the predetermined finite volume can be displaced in the three-dimensional image according to a translational motion, while displaying only the part of the three-dimensional image contained at each instant in the predetermined finite volume.

4 (canceled).

5 (currently amended): The method of visualization according to claim 1 wherein displaying the part of the three-dimensional image contained in the predetermined finite volume as well as any other part of the three-dimensional image not contained in a cylinder, with the predetermined finite volume, of section identical to the section of the predetermined finite volume and of infinite length, and in that any part of the three-dimensional image not contained in the cylinder is displayed in degraded mode.

6 (canceled).

7 (currently amended): The method of visualization according to claim 1 wherein once a part of the three-dimensional image is visualized in the predetermined finite volume, the dimensions of that predetermined finite volume can be modified by an operator.

8 (canceled).

9 (currently amended): The method of visualization according to claim 1 wherein the predetermined finite volume is a sphere whose diameter is equal to half the width of a display window of the three-dimensional image display window.

10 (canceled).

11 (currently amended): The method of visualization according to claim 1 wherein once the point is selected on the element of interest, a translation of the three-dimensional image is made, so as to place the point in the center of a display window of the three-dimensional display window image.

12 (previously presented): The method of visualization according to claim 1 wherein the point is selected by means of a cursor.